



STATE OF INDIANA  
INDIANA STATE EXCISE POLICE

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**For Immediate Release**

**Excise Police Partners with DEA for 4<sup>th</sup> Nationwide Prescription Drug Take-Back Day**

**INDIANAPOLIS (March 26)** – The Indiana State Excise Police is once again partnering with the Drug Enforcement Administration to give the public another opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs.

On Saturday, April 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. local time, the Excise Police Indianapolis district office, 6400 E. 30<sup>th</sup> Street, will serve as a prescription drug collection site. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last October, Americans turned in over 188.5 tons of prescription drugs at nearly 5,327 sites operated by more than 3,945 of the DEA's state and local law enforcement partners.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high – more Americans currently abuse prescription drugs than the number of those using cocaine, hallucinogens and heroin combined, according to the 2009 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

"I am pleased the State Excise Police is once again participating in the DEA's Drug Take-Back Day," Superintendent Matt Strittmatter said. "This is another opportunity for the agency to enhance its mission to ensure public safety by joining with our federal and local law enforcement partners to offer a safe place for Indiana residents to dispose of expired, unwanted and potentially dangerous drugs that could easily become available to persons who would use them to do harm to others or themselves."

The public can find a nearby collection site by visiting [www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov), clicking on the "Got Drugs?" icon and following the links to a database.

Other participants in this initiative include the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; the American Association of Poison Control Centers; the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America; D.A.R.E. America; the Federation of State Medical Boards; the U. S. Health Resources and Services Administration; the International Association of Chiefs of Police; the National Association of Attorneys General; the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives; the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy; the National District Attorneys Association; the National Sheriffs Association; and the Partnership@drugfree.org.

